

## Steering Committee Meeting 11-15-2011

### Minutes

Attendees: Mike Bailey, Kate Farley, Karen Farnsworth, Molly Lawless, Cinnamon and Zara Berg, Heather Address, Tony Sevigny, Terri Lindow, Paula Swift, David Trotter, Minh Chau Le, Laura Raymond and Randee Frost

Introductions: Laura Raymond and Minh Chau Le from the P-Patch program were introduced. Laura has been our contact since the inception and will continue through the completion of the build. Minh Chau will take over once the garden beds are ready for distribution. We also welcomed Heather Address, a new p-patcher to the group.

Overview of accomplishments: A slide show was presented representing the people, commitment and progress made since the first work party on May 21. It was noted that as of October 25 there were 2934 recorded man hours contributed. 43 family units or individuals with more than 12 hours, 24 family units or individuals with 30 hours and 12 with more than 50. There has been tremendous additional community support, donated time and materials.

Treasurer report: Terri gave an update on our current finances and expenditures. The water installation was about \$3000.00. Our water usage from Troy's was about \$250.00. We discussed the option of a gift certificate for Troy to thank him for generously agreeing to allow our use of his water. \$75.00 was agreed upon and will come from the trust account.

What's next in terms of winter wrap up/phasing:

Kate stated her goal was to complete required elements of tiers one and two (nearest the tree and middle section )by the end of the year. She reported there was discussion to end formal work parties for the winter around Thanksgiving. She stated more discussion is needed; do we want to end, change the format, hire some work done to achieve the goal. This will be further discussed by leadership and a plan decided upon before the Thanksgiving weekend.

There are 4 critical elements of the garden to complete prior to distribution.  
1) retaining, 2) gravel, 3) soil amendment, 4) ADA beds

Kate reported 140 LF of link and mortar wall has been built in the last month. We have 115 LF of retaining left to complete, (15' of chain link and 100' of broken concrete). Kate suggested the chain link can be completed by regular volunteers but states the broken concrete will require more skill. She suggests a crew of 3 is most effective. We discussed the option of potentially hiring help. No decision regarding this option was made at this time.

Kate emphasized how hard a job it is to move and spread gravel. We need about 30 yds of gravel to complete the paths, common area and ADA parking. We discussed the option of renting a bob cat to move it and of hiring out the job to a third party. The group decided to get bids on costs of hiring a 3rd party company and the bob cat rental so we can make an informed decision based on our budget, the time factor and physical capabilities. Kate agreed to follow up on the bids.

Karen has donated 2X4 elevated sand box to repurpose as one of the ADA beds. This bed will allow wheelchairs to roll under. Laura suggested building a standard ADA raised bed as the second bed.

Elements not-required for bed distribution:

Molly brought up the option of a fence on Barton and perhaps 34th. The group agreed this is a good idea. Laura Raymond stated fences are acceptable expenditures from levy moneys and reminded us we will need design approval from SDOT as the fences will be built on the ROW. Molly suggested the open hog wire style and we look into having it built vs building ourselves. No decision was made at this meeting.

Other elements brought up but not discussed at this time included the bench around the tree (not required), arbor (not required), compost bin (required) and worm bins (not required)

Plot distribution time line: Laura and Minh Chau agreed the third tier (nearest sections to 34th) can be phased in beginning next spring. All levy moneys left in our budget must be spent by year end 2012 or will be distributed elsewhere.

The following are required prior to plot distribution:

Laura Raymond stated:

- 1) finish and mark all bed walls
- 2) complete all gravel installation; pathways, parking, and common areas around the tree
- 3) 2 ADA beds

Minh Chau Le added:

The garden must be ready to garden with all the tools, components in place including compost bins. She suggested an opening day when all those who worked to build the garden and are eligible for a plot have a big work party focused on assigning plots, marking plot corners, adding soil. She suggested buying garden soil to top off the beds.

Once we decide we are near our last work party and ready to garden we send out a final call for hours, the hours are compiled and sent to Minh Chau. Based on hours contributed volunteers are given the opportunity to accept a plot and garden at Barton.

Submitted by Randee Frost